Lincoln Cent Quarterly

Lincoln Sense

Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors

Lot 40 in
Mail Bid Sale #112

Vol. XX No. 1
January, 2002

Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors

Mail Bid Sale Rules

Consignor's Rules:

1. Consignors must be members of SLCC.
2. Lots must be small cents—sets, rolls, singles, albums, clearly marked to date and grade.
3. Selection for Mail Bid Sale is up to SLCC.
4. No altered, counterfeit, damaged, or loose coins accepted.
5. Invoice listing all coins must accompany the consignment. Placement will be in the next mail bid sale—if possible, space permitting.
6. Payment will be made 45 days after the close of the sale—or sooner, if possible. Ten percent of the bid price will go to SLCC. There is no bidder's fee, except postage and insurance.
7. Unsold "reserve" lots are charged 5% of the reserve.

Bidder's Rules:

1. Bidders must be members of SLCC.
2. Bids must be in 25c, 50c, or whole dollar amounts.
3. All lots are open unless marked "reserve".
4. Use the enclosed bid sheet or copy.
5. Bids must arrive on or before the closing date.
6. Late bids will not be honored.
7. No "open" bids accepted.
8. Bidders bidding on their own lots are charged 5% if not overbid.
9. Bid sheets must include current mailing address and daytime telephone number
10. Bidder's are responsible for their own errors—make bids legible.
11. There is a 5 day return privilege—no questions asked—EXCEPT for slabbed coins and lots paid for more than five days after receipt. Coins submitted for encapsulation that come back less than the grade sold for are not returnable UNLESS marked "counterfeit" or "altered"
12. Bidders' and consignors' rules are subject to change without notice.

dopted January, 2002

Lincoln Cent Quarterly

Lincoln Sense

Official publication of The Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors

Founded in 1982 as a service to the collectors of the Lincoln Cent.
Annual subscription is $15 (foreign mailing $25).
Published quarterly January, April, July, October.
Life membership is $165.

Contents

IFC – Mail Bid Sale Rules
P. 1 - Contents
P. 2 - President's Message
P. 3-4 – Keeping Your Copper Coins Red
P. 5 - 1943S Bronze Rarity Sells
P. 6 - Mint Layoffs
P. 7-10 – Cherrypicking the Lincoln Cent
P. 11-12 – Mail Bid Sale #112
P. 13 – Mail Bid Sale #111 Results;
Membership Report, Long Beach dates
P.14 – 1914D Cent Review
P. 15 – Million Penny Project
P. 16 – NGC Slabs Offmetal Collection
1942 Experimental Cents
P.17-18 – Mail Bid Sheets
P.19-20 – Display ads
IBC – Display ad

For information regarding advertising, mail bid submissions, articles for publication, write to
SLCC 13515 Magnolia Boulevard
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
e-mail slcc2@aol.com
Voice Mail (818)789-8184

President's Message...

Welcome to the premiere issue of *Lincoln Cent Quarterly,* also known as *Lincoln Sense.* The new look is part of the remake campaign to bolster the look that SLCC conveys, impart more information per issue, enhance the mail bid sales, and renew and enlarge our membership. The special two year renewal offer of $25 has helped solidify our membership roster. The ad in The Numismatist has brought in some more new members. And it should continue to do so well into 2002. We have lost several members who moved and did not leave us a forwarding address, failed to renew, and a few have died. Our goal for 2002 is restore our base membership list to 500—a peak membership of nearly ten years ago.

We know that coin collecting is on the rise since the 50 states quarter program began in 1999. Many more coin albums have been sold in the past two years than in the previous ten years according to wholesalers we contacted. Coin show attendance has been very good for many regional and club shows. To raise membership, SLCC will be renting bourse tables at various club and local shows—offering SLCC memberships, *The Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent* as well as free evaluation and attribution of Lincoln cents. We know there are more Lincoln cent collectors out there than quarter collectors. So why not ride the coat tails of a popular coin phase?

In this sale (#112) we have a Mint sealed bag of 1973D cents., the first Mint sealed bag we have had for sale in 112 mail bid sales. That date is not scarce by any means—even in BU. But as we older collectors know---the Mint sealed bags are where all the mint errors show up first—clips, blanks, brockages, and the more exotic errors. In recent years, it has been next to impossible to find Mint sealed bags more than a few years old—and even the newer ones show up with interesting finds—in a bag of 1995P cents, one collector in Philadelphia found several HUNDRED of the 1995 doubled die cents (worth about $25 each today). SLCC had received a consignment of offcenter cents last year from a collector who found FORTY of them in a Mint sealed bag. They sold for $2 to $4 each. Another SLCC member found several unplated (no copper) cents in a bag and three of them were slabbed as high as MS67. So bid generously and let us know what shows up.

To help with the increased cost of the new format (about five times more than before), we are offering ad space. The ads in this issue are samples of the type of ads we are soliciting. If you know someone who might like to advertise, contact Sol Taylor at slcc2@aol.com for a quote. Rates are VERY reasonable.

Though this is the first issue of *Lincoln Cent Quarterly,* we are continuing numbering system starting with Vol. XX No. 1. All contributions are welcome—articles, questions, photos, sales data, commentary, etc.

Cents & Sensibility

By Don Ketterling

Keeping Your Copper Coins Red

"What do *YOU* store *YOUR* coins in???"

Often at coin shows or over the telephone, I am asked about the best way to preserve and store copper coins. Over the years I have developed a sort of "canned" monologue on the do's and don'ts of copper care and thus decided to put it on paper not only to conserve a little hot air and energy, but more importantly, to provide a helpful reference for novice collectors and experts alike.

I have seen and heard many horror-stories over the 40 years I have been involved in numismatics (some of them self-inflicted)! Not only are mistakes painful and costly to the current owner of a choice, red coin, the consequences are far-reaching since that coin has become less desirable for future collectors. While we secure legal title to a coin when procuring it for our collections, in a larger sense we never really *"own"* it. Whether dealer or collector, we are in truth, custodians and as such have a fiduciary responsibility to preserve and protect that little piece of history for those who follow. It is in this spirit that I put forth this essay which, most certainly, is in no way intended as the final word on the subject. In fact, I encourage the reader to write with comments and/or suggestions, the "tip of the century," or merely to strike up a dialogue on copper storage and preservation.

Finally, I must confess when I set out to pen my thoughts, it occurred to me that I might be running the risk of scaring off would-be collectors of mint-state, red copper by pointing out all the pitfalls that await the unwary! In fact, I have met many who began collecting high-grade Lincolns, for instance, and gave up after an expensive acquisition had "turned" on them over time. As with all things fearful, the best way to conquer it is Head-on! Some of what follows may be painfully obvious but it is my hope that even the crustiest of coin veterans will find something useful and informative. In my fervent wish to add to the already legion number of enthusiastic copper collectors, (especially my favorite, small cents!), let's start with one salient fact: Of all the standard coinage metals,.....

COPPER IS THE MOST VOLATILE!

Sure. you say. what else is new! It is a sad irony that the attitudes of some collectors

and dealers are that copper coins. being of a lowly denomination. are frequently treated with less than their due respect and sometimes with outright disdain'. It is precisely for this reason that many so-called common coins have not survived in great quantities throughout the years and why the prices of gem. original. red copper are often exponentially higher than the same coin in a lower mint-state grade'.

of the other three dominant coinage metals (gold silver and nickel) gold is virtually Impervious to environmental damage. Silver is the next most "durable" but is prone to tarnishing merely from being exposed to air.

Even though our nickel coinage is more durable. it *does* contain 75% copper. and is quite susceptible to the "greenies" which are composed mainly of copper oxides.

However. there are chemical solutions, (dips) that with proper use can remove oxidation without causing undo damage to the original surfaces. Use is *very* widespread on silver. less on gold and mixed results on nickel.

It is a cruel law of chemistry. however. that precludes the dipping of copper because the outcome is met with scorn in the market place. Pale pinks and purple/blue iridescent tones are the usual results. The most popular "dips" contain uric acid which is detrimental to copper. leaving trace elements on the surfaces which will provide you with unwanted surprises later!

CONSEQUENTLY, THE RULES THAT APPLY TO THE ENTIRE RARE COIN REALM BECOME EMPHATIC FOR COPPER!

Specifically they are:

1 *Handle coins only on their edges. NEVER. EVER. ON the Surfaces!!*

Aside from inflicting friction. which destroys original mint surfaces. copper coinage is particularly vulnerable to body oils and acids. to say nothing of the potential array of unidentifiable substances which may have found their way onto your hands!

2 *Keep moisture away from your coins at ALL costs!!*

This applies to high humidity which you can't see as well as the obvious water damage which might occur from flooding etc. *OFF ALL THE OFFENDERS, MOISTURE IS PUBLIC ENEMY #1!* Water may activate otherwise dormant or harmless chemicals. dust particles or what have you and turn them into copper killers! (Be aware that the walls of your home safe are impregnated with moisture-laden material which will leach VERY high humidity, to the contents. A desiccant such as silica gel packets MUST be used to absorb this excess with regular monitoring and changing. A brand-name is "Metal Safe". but there are many other sources outside the numismatic marketplace. If

(Continued

c c c c c

Used commemorative stamps wanted:

SLCC appreciates the regular contribuors who not only return the used commem stgamps from our mailings but also add many others from other mail. The kids of 4th grade really get a kick out them and learn some history, geography, art, and other topics not in the textbooks.

a safe is your choice. I suggest putting your copper inside an airtight container (ammunition cans are popular and inexpensive) along with a desiccant then putting *that* in the safe).

3 *Use only chemically inert or "museum quality" Mylar or plastics for storage!!*

Stay away from holders containing polyvinylchloride (PVC) which tends to break down over time and leach oil. plasitcizers and who knows what. If you must use them. make sure they are the newer generation of highly polished and low PVC plastic. "Saflip" is brand-name of 100% Mylar holder or "flip," which contains no plasticizers. (I will discuss these later).

4 *Avoid the cardboard coin albums with sliding covers even though the slides themselves may be made of Mylar or similar inert material!!*

The major problem with this *popular* form of storage is two-fold. If the coins are not pushed into the holes far enough. the sliding action can actually cause friction and wear on the surfaces of the coins they were designed to protect! Secondly. the sliding action creates dust fragments from the cardboard which can settle on the coin and provide you with some more of those unwelcome surprises later. The day they make an album with both an inert body and "touchless" slides or covers. we will have arrived! (There is one album on the market which nearly fits this criteria. but the drawbacks are enough that I'm only lukewarm in recommending it. More on that later).

5 *Avoid paper or cardboard altogether!!*

Almost all paper contains some level of acids and sulfur. even if only a trace. Don't take the chance! So now that you've read about the minefields which lurk for the collector are you getting ready to throw in the towel and collect something else?

Don't give up without a fight! Yes. there are some real dangers awaiting the copper buff. butt

feel just as sure that there are some untold and unique rewards awaiting the meticulous and conscientious collector. I would like to discuss some of the products that are available to the contemporary numismatist and even mention them by name. I do this without any interest whatsoever in any of these products and have no axes to grind with any comparable product I may fail to mention which may do the job just as well. The price-shopping, product experimentation and ultimate choices are. of course, yours!

For the copper enthusiast there are two items which I consider all but *indispensable.* You are not likely to find *either* of them at your local coin shop or even at a major coin supply warehouse! In fact the first item is more than indispensable, it should be downright *illegal* to handle copper coins without it!

So now that you've read about the minefields which lurk for the collector are you getting ready to throw in the towel and collect something else?
.....(maybe baseball cards???)

1 *"Canned air"*

Actually not air at all, but an inert gas which is used to clean electronic components of unwanted dust/contaminant particles. The brand I use is called "PerfectDuster Plus" by PerfectData. It comes in various sizes but I buy the 12 oz can which would last the average collector many months. (I use a can or two per month which is due to the volume of coins I handle as a dealer). One word of caution: When using this product you must be careful not to shake or tip the can as liquid may discharge instead of the desired gas and may cause discoloration. The obvious benefit of this product is that it removes dust particles (both seen and unseen) with a fair amount of force and you avoid using your own breath which is a VERY BIG "NO-NO" since it contains all sorts of evil chemicals harmful to your beautiful copper coins. I do not handle coins at all without this product at the ready! (Rather than buying the throw-away cans, a detachable nozzle can be bought separately and re-fills purchased as an economy measure. This depends on market variables such as the size purchased, store pricing, etc. Frequently the larger size disposable items cost less per ounce than the re-fills).

2 *Isopropyl alcohol* (99%) (not the standard 70% "rubbing alcohol")

Not all coins (nor all collectors!) need a cleaning solution but for those that do, a product called "Dissolve" was marketed to remove oils, sludge and the "green slime" left from old PVC holders. Many swore by this product as it was an industrial-strength solvent, but my experience was that it evaporated so fast that it redistributed the contaminant instead of removing it. It's all academic now as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in its wisdom has declared its primary ingredient, trichlorotrifluoroethane, a danger to the ozone layer. At any rate, 99% isopropyl is completely inert and will rarely change the color of original copper. It evaporates quickly and contains no water. I use it with a cotton swab or patch to ensure that no *unseen* oils or chemicals remain on the surface of the coin before packaging. It can be found in most drug stores. I don't recommend the use of solvents as a general rule, but for those who MUST, 99% is the best and safest. *HOWEVER, PROCEED WITH CAUTION* (Test some "worthless" coins beforehand). ALSO BE AWARE THAT OLDER MINT-STATE COINS MAY HAVE BEEN TREATED WITH AN OIL BASE PRESERVATIVE WHICH WILL DISCOLOR IF REMOVED. (NOTE: Avoid acetone or finger-nail polish remover at all costs as this will definitely cause discoloration!! If your 1914-D has some lacquer on it. you're better off leaving it than ending up with a psychedelic rainbow hue which will be virtually impossible to sell). So now. you say that I've got the basic tools, HOW DO I HOUSE MY GEM RED COINS!?

This article was in the September, 1997 Issue of The Centinel, the journal of Adavanced Lincoln Cent Collectors. It is no longer published.

ccccc

COIN STAR machines

Where you have COIN STAR machines, we urge you and all others to dump coin jars and piggy banks into these sorters and take the cash or receipt for groceries. It saves many hours in sorting, counting, and wrapping. The 5 or 6% charge is worth it. Be sure to cull out the silver coins, wheat cents, Indian cents, and other oldies.

1943-S Bronze Lincoln Cent Rarity

King of the Small Cents

(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1943-S bronze or "copper" cent. VF-35 (PCGS). Rather than reinvent the wheel, we are repeating our description from the August 1999 catalogue of the Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection, Lot 1122, where this specimen was last offered:

One of America's most famous "popular" rarities. Medium to deep tannish brown with lighter high points. A minuscule obverse edge bump is seen at 12:00, and a few other light marks are noted, commensurate with the assigned grade. Sharply struck in all areas, a notable diagnostic of the date (the steel cents of 1943 were struck under considerably higher pressure than that normally used for bronze cent production, with extremely sharp devices the result for the few bronze pieces of the date struck in error). Additionally, the weight is as might be expected for a coin that spent some time in circulation, being only slightly below that of the norm for bronze cents of the era. Finally, the coin is not attracted to a magnet (steel is attracted, bronze is not).

Easily one of the best known rarities in U.S. coinage, the bronze or copper cents of 1943 were issued at all three mints. The bronze pieces from Philadelphia are the most plentiful (yet great rarities unto themselves) of the three issues, with perhaps four or five (perhaps even more) specimens known for every S-mint piece currently known; the Denver issue is the rarest of the three mint products. Always desirable and eagerly sought by Lincoln cent specialists on those rare occasions when a genuine specimen surfaces; this coin was kept for decades by the current consignor, and is now offered to the bidding public for the first time [and now for the second time]."

Back to the present, this is just the fourth auction appearance of a 1943-S "copper" cent in recent years. Superior Stamp and Coin offered an example in June 1997, graded AU-58 by ANACS. This same example was later offered by Ira and Larry Goldberg in February 2000, this time graded MS-61 by NGC! The presently offered example, as we have noted, was earlier offered by us in August 1999.

Weight: 46.8 grains (3.02 grams).

The bronze or "copper" cent of 1943 has long held a secure place in the pantheon of memorable U.S. coinage rarities. Part of its fame, indeed, a goodly portion of its fame, can be traced to the 1940s and 1950s, an era when the Mint denied any knowledge of the date, yet coin dealers offered amazing prices for a specimen. Advertised in mainstream magazines and on the back pages of comic books, the fame of the 1943 "copper" cent spread near and far across America. Many ads featured rewards for the coin, typically reading: Reward, $3,000 For This Penny, (the rewards were usually for $3,000 or $10,000, although one would-be buyer offered $9,785.01 for a specimen!). An entire generation routinely checked its pocket change for this great rarity, and not surprisingly, a few specimens were actually found, the first of these found in change in a school cafeteria in 1947. On a more recent note (Spring 1999), national news programs picked up a story about a fellow in the northwest who "accidentally" spent his 1943 bronze cent. Various values were given, some ranging as high as $500,000(!) for the coin—basically a case of an ill-informed news media giving erroneous information to an even less informed public. Here at Bowers and Merena (and almost certainly at just about every coin shop of any size anywhere in the country), the telephones rang nonstop for days with calls from people who "found a 1943 copper penny, and what's it worth?" being the order of the day. Indeed, when the call came through regarding this specimen, it took some convincing on the caller's part to pique our further interest!

Over the years much publicity has been given to copper or bronze cents dated 1943. A few months ago, the American Numismatic Association showcased an example at a convention in Sacramento, with the result that dealers were besieged with telephone calls and inquiries from citizens who thought they had a rare 1943 copper cent. However, without exception, to our knowledge, all proved to be otherwise.

However, there are a number of genuine pieces known, of which the presently offered piece is one example. Most known pieces—perhaps one to two dozen totally—are from the Philadelphia Mint. San Francisco and Denver pieces are much more elusive.

The present coin had been retained for a long time by the previous consignor, was then certified by PCGS, and is now offered on the market for the [second] time. The standard reference on the subject, *The Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents*, by David W. Lange, 1996, devotes several pages to these and related issues. He noted that of the Philadelphia Mint 1943 bronze cents, "Only 10 examples have been confirmed and documented as struck in bronze. A few more may possibly exist, but the figure of 40 pieces published by Walter Breen in his *Encyclopedia* is without foundation. These coins were almost certainly struck in error, although the temptation to create bronze novelties would have been great indeed."

David Lange went on to relate some of the romance and lore surrounding the issue. He also took note of an offering by our firm in 1981 of a Philadelphia Mint 1943 bronze cent, EF grade, that sold for $10,000, this particular piece having been traced back to the late John R. Sinnock, chief engraver of the United States Mint from 1925 to 1947.

Regarding the 1943-D bronze cent, David Lange commented succinctly, "Only a single specimen has been authenticated." Further, "Though Walter Breen in his *Encyclopedia* refers to the 24 examples that are known of the 1943-D cent in bronze, the figure was entirely without foundation."

Concerning the San Francisco version, as offered here, Lange wrote: "Walter Breen's estimate of about six examples known seems to be accurate, although only four coins have been certified as genuine. None of these graded below EF." The present offered coin was not known to David Lange when he wrote his book.

To the advanced collector of Lincoln cents who would like both a rarity and an outstanding conversation piece, the current coin has much to offer. No doubt it will attract a great deal of attention as it crosses the block.

From our sale of the Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection, August 1999, Lot 1122.

Member Mike Batkin informs SLCC that this piece brought $62,100 (including buyer's 15% premium) at a recent Bowers & Merena sale. The comments in the catalogue are worthwhile reading. References to population of known 1943 bronze cents fail to mention that these data were first published in <u>The Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent</u> in 1992 and the research was done by SLCC member Steve Benson

11-21-01
DAILY NEWS

NOTHING TO SPARE

Coin surplus forces layoffs at mint

AssociatedPress

PHILADELPHIA — A surplus of coins attributed to the softening economy has prompted the U.S. Mint to begin layoffs.

Instead of 23 billion new pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters next year, mint officials now believe they'll need only 15 billion.

The mint had already made too many coins during the past year.

The mint has begun laying off 357 workers nationwide, including major coin-production plants in Philadelphia and Denver, U.S. Mint spokesman Michael White said Wednesday.

"When people are spending less money, there's less transactions out there," White said.

The drop in demand for new coins is staggering, said James Benfield, executive director of the Coin Coalition, a Washington lobbying group that supports the dollar coin.

Benfield and others speculate the coin glut is being compounded by many coins coming back into circulation after months or years on dresser tops and in shoe boxes.

But a spokeswoman for Coinstar, a company that operates 9,300 coin-changing machines in supermarkets, said the company is not seeing an increase in usage of its machines.

The machines count a shopper's coins and exchange them — minus a service charge — for cash or groceries. Coinstar estimated that Americans have $7.7 billion in spare change at their homes.

For the mint, lower production means lower profits because it charges the Federal Reserve for the full face value of a coin, though it costs less to manufacture.

For example, it costs 4½ cents to make a quarter, but the mint charges 25 cents. The mint sends the balance to the U.S. Treasury to pay for other government operations. But when demand drops, the mint has to cut costs just like a private company, leading to layoffs.

The agency — which also has operations in San Francisco, West Point, N.Y., and Washington, D.C. — plans to get rid of about 12 percent of its 2,861 employees. Coins for Eastern states are made in Philadelphia; coins for the West are made in Denver.

Getting Into Circulation

The story points out the fact that so much of past Mint output never gets beyond the dresser drawer or the pickle jar. Bet they never had that problem in the Great Depression (check the mintage figures for proof).

Story from the DAILY NEWS (Los Angeles) 11-21-01.

Cherrypicking the Lincoln Cent

Sol Taylor

The most widely collected of all coins is the Lincoln Cent. It holds the U.S. record for longevity of single coin design. There are more cataloged varieties than any other series. Finding many of these varieties in dealers' stock or in rolls or even in one's own collection is a constant source of joy, awe, and just plain fun. As a Lincoln Cent collector since 1937, I was primarily interested in dates and mintmarks as listed in the coin folders of the time. The major varieties such as the 1955 and 1972 doubled dies were not ever expected to be found in change and certainly not in a dealer's stock misidentified as the common 1955 or 1972 cent. The lesser known (and mostly not listed in the *Red Book* or most other catalogues) varieties include several hundred RPMs (repunched mintmarks) and several dozen known doubled dies. These varieties are listed in speciality books such as the *RPM BOOK* by James Wiles and *The Lincoln Cent Doubled Die* by John Wexler. Many of these varieties can still be found by searching BU and circulated rolls of Lincoln Cents (especially original BU rolls). In cases of circulated rolls assembled long ago by date and mintmark, many varieties can be cherrypicked. And if one can obtain bags of wheat cents, chances are a good number of varieties can be culled out – assuming someone else hasn't already cherried the bags.

This article points to a few more valuable, but lesser known varieties that this author has found in varying numbers over the years. This article does not focus on mint errors – such as off-center strikes, cuds, double and multiple struck coins, brockages, and a host of other minting errors. A variety is a consistent die variety which produces a number of identifiable identical varieties – such as the famous 1955 doubled die cent. Usually, such varieties were made from a single die pair and each coin bears the same unique features as every other variety. The 1955 doubled die (also known as 1955 1-0-1) has a pair of die

scratches under the cross bar of the T in "CENT.". Every genuine 1955 double has this feature. In an attempt to better educate the collector, The Society of Lincoln Collectors publicizes some of these varieties in its bimonthly publication *LINCOLN SENSE.* CONECA, an organization of error and variety collectors features many Lincoln Cent varieties (and errors) in its publication *ERRORSCOPE.*

Perhaps the first Lincoln Cent variety was the 1909 VDB 1-0-IV doubled die obverse. The Liberty and the date are clearly doubled. First described in 1977, the variety drew little attention until much later. This author in the early 1980s managed to find BU specimens in a roll at a major auction, and several circulated pieces in various dealers' stock – none of which was listed or sold as a variety. The Red Book does not list this variety. In mint state it sells for well over $100. Another 1909 VDB variety known as 2-0I. , shows a thickened date and die clogs in B and R in Liberty. It sells for $75 to $100 in BU. Both varieties are listed in Breen's Encyclopedia (1988). Another 1909 variety is the 19095 over horizontal S RPM#1. This was discovered long after 1909, but not considered prominent until the first edition of the RPM Book came out in 1982. In mint state it brings about a 50% premium over the 1909S.

For most years, the mint marked coins exist in repunched formats. There are two different RPMs for the 1910S, one for the 1911S, one for 1912S, none until the 1919S, then none until 1925S (two varieties), then from 1928 onward, almost every year has one or more RPMs. Perhaps the most commonly found RPMs are those for the 1960D cent – with several dozen listed in the RPM Book. There are several other RPMs listed for 1961D as well.

The few illustrations show the scope of these varieties. Some stand out under low magnification while others require closer scrutiny. The 1955 doubled die cent was so obvious, at first some people thought that's the way they were meant to look. However, early in 1955, a few dealers were offering to pay fifty dollars for one of these coins and the hunt began. Dealer David Bowers reported that when he was in New York he was offered several dozens specimens and was reluctant to buy all of them for fear that they would be fairly common. In 1995 dealer Harry Forman was offering $50 for the recently discovered 1995 doubled die cent when he was soon deluged with hundreds of the coins which

apparently were minted in quantities estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands. Today's retail price is about $20. In MS65RD the 1955 doubled die is valued at more than $20,000. Only a small number (less than 20 at last count) meet that high grade.

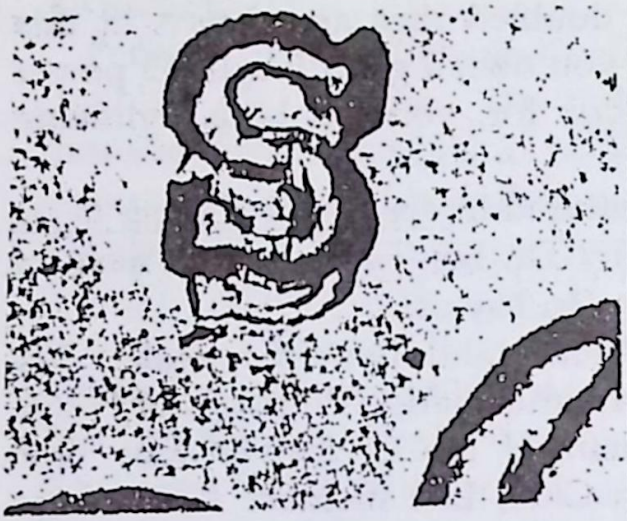
A few of the lesser-known doubled dies are shown in this article to illustrate the point. If you own a good loupe (15 power or more) and know what to look for, you can be a legitimate Lincoln Cent cherrypicker.

All the coins illustrated are featured in *The Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent 4th edition (1999)* by Dr. Sol Taylor – and most of them have been cherrypicked by Dr. Taylor.

Dr. Sol Taylor, lifelong collector and one-time dealer, has authored hundreds of articles in numismatics. President of NASC (1975-76), founder and president of SLCC, former four time president of The Whittier Coin Club, Life member #805 of the ANA, lecturer, coin show promoter, and recipient of the NASC's highest award, The Richard Goodson award in 1991. Retired professor of education, currently a Realtor with ReMax in Sherman Oaks. The program, "Cherrypicking the Lincoln Cent" is available to coin clubs. It includes overhead transparencies and monologue by Dr. Taylor.

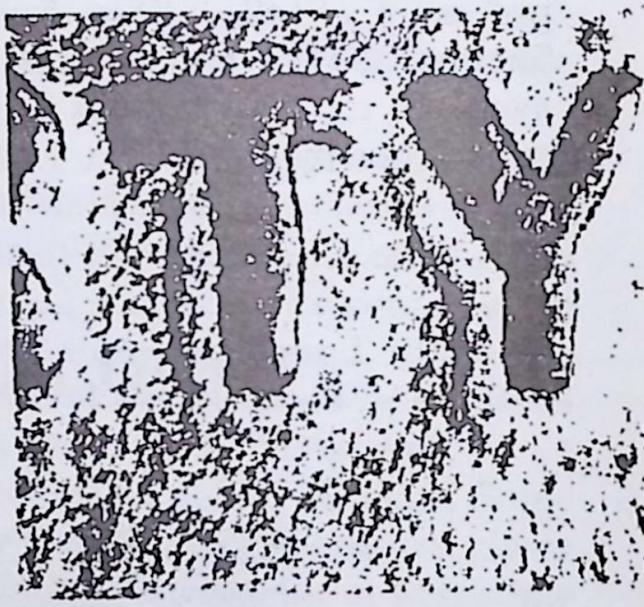
1960D 1-0-III

938S RPM #1



1941 5-0-IV

1943D RPM #1



This article appeared in the Winter 2000 issue of the NASC QUARTERLY. Dr. Taylor has been a regular contributor to the NASC QUARTERLY for more than thirty years

Mail Bid Sale #112 Closing Date January 27, 2002

Please use the bid sheet in the back of this publi .cation or photocopy of same form. Mail your bids in before the deadline. Late arrivals will not be entered in the bidding. In case of tie bids, the earliest bid wins. Good luck.

Van Nuys Consignment

Lot description

1 2 Whitman folders 1909VDB-1958, missing all the keys. Selected from circulation from the mid-1950s-1960s includes 112 different coins: 1909VDB VF, 1910, 1912, 1912S, 1913, 1913S XF, 1914, 1916P&S, 1917P,D&S, 1918P,D,S, 1920P,D,S, 1921P,S, 1923, 1924, 1925P,D,S, 1926P,D, 1927-1930P,D,S, 1932, 1933, 1934-'64P,D,S complete, 1955S,D, 1956D BU, 1957P,D, 1958. Nice starter set. Average grades good to VG and VF in vol. 2.

2 1873 Indian VG, partial LIBERTY plus 2 George V Canada cents: 1932 VF and 1936 AU55RB

3 1909S Lincoln Obv VG, rev Fine, full wheat

4 1917S Eight XF coins 4 XF40 and 4 XF45

5 1920 MS65RD full golden mint luster, minor planchet flake on reverse field.

6 1925S Ten XF coins, 5 XF40 and 5 XF45

7 1931 MS65RD, light olive overlay, tiny obv. spot under LIB

8 1937P,D,S P-raibow crescent obv, S - red obv, RB rev., D - reddish obv, dark RB rev.

9 1940 Proof64RD, light haze obv, full shimmering red rev.

10 Double struck Memorial type, partial date "19", second strike lower left obv. MS64RD.

11 1964 20% indented strike lower third obv. MS64RB

12 1964 ANACS Triple struck, cleaned Net grade MS60RB, Glossy red-brown-olive hues. Scarce Mint striking error.

13 1953D Four MS64RD various toning and 1952D MS65RD

14 1950 BU original matched roll of 50 Overall MS64-65 quality. Some show teeny microspecks.

15 1953S BU roll of 46 pieces, Original matched MS64-65RD quality. Lightest reddish toning.

16 *Mint-sealed bag of 1973D cents with lead seal and bank delivery tag. Never opened. (See President's Message P.2)*

Long Beach Consignment

17 1909VDB NGC/ANA MS66RD, Golden gem. Same as one sold at Heritage Long Beach sale Oct, 2001 at $256.

18 1919 MS65RD, light toning obv and rev. Microspecks obv under 10x. Nice sharp eye appeal.

19 1919S PCGS MS64RD, light obv. toning. Barely misses MS65. See last issue for PR on similar pieces.

Continued...

Mail Bid sale #112 Continued...

20 1937 PCGS PR66RD, as nice as the day of issue.

21 1983S PCGS PR69DCAM, high as it gets, Perfecto.

22 1996S PCGS PR69DCAM, mate to #21

23 2000S PCGS PR69DCAM, Superb

24 2001S PCGS PR69DCAM, None grade higher. Perfecto.

Florida Consignment

All original BU rolls in plastic tubes, matched coins from the bank wrapped paper rolls.

25 1945S fresh high end, show some shellcase color streaks. (50)

26 1946D Early die state MS65RD, also show shellcase traces. (50)

27 1946S Sharp MS65RD (50)

28 1947P&D Two rolls both full MS65RD (100)

29 1948S Sharp MS65RD, some edge toning, darker end pieces

30 1949P deep red MS64RD

31 1949S Bright MS65RD, scarcer roll (50)

32 1950D Sparkling mint fresh MS65+RD

NY Consignment

Lots 33-39 are all major Mint errors all slabbed (except lot 39).

33 1919 20% off center ANACS AU55 (RB)

34 1937D 10% clip ANACS MS65RD

35 1943D 10% off center ANACS AU50

36 1956 Struck on a silver dime planchet ANACS AU50

37 1964 DDR#1, Prominent doubling in USA. ANACS MS64RD

38 1982 Zinc, no copper plating, ANACS MS65

39 Ten 1990 off center 5-10% MS65RD, full dates

Texas Consignment

40 **1909S VDB ANACS MS64RD, just a shade off 65. Some darker reddish areas, see Cover photo. Nice eye appeal. Well struck. Similar auction lots recently brought $1400-1500.**

41 ***1914D PCGS MS63RB.*** *Sharp details, tiny nick top obv edge. More red than brown, mottled coloring. Some fingermarks both sides.. Similar auction lots brought $1200-1300. Some weakness is rev wheat ears and ONE.*

cccc

End of Mail Bid Sale #112. Mail your bid sheets in early. Due to the holiday season, this issue is being mailed BEFORE Christmas to assure early January delivery.

Mail Bid sale #111 November 27, 2001 Results

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
1	235.	11	6.	21	65.	31	140.	41	3.50	51	4.50
2	42.	12	12.	22	35.	32	105.	42	3.50	52	4.50
3	27.50	13	3.	23	82.	33	24.	43	16.50	53	4.50
4	60.	14	18.	24	22.	34	13.	44	9.50	54	3.50
5	8.75	15	25.	25	28.	35	12.	45	9.50	55	4.50
6	15.	16	18.	26	33.	36	7.	46	18.	56	4.50
7	12.	17	22.	27	19.	37	12.	47	12.	57	5.
8	9.	18	27.	28	32.	38	30.	48	9.25	58	4.50
9	17.	19	20.	29	15.	39	23.50	49	4.	59	4.50
10	26.	20	22.	30	20.	40	3.50	50	4.50	60	4.00
										61	5.50
										62	2.50
								63	35.	64	6.50

There were 33 bidders. No late bids received. Top lot was #1 with 10 bids. Lot 31 received 9 bids. There were no tie bids in the sale.

c c c c c

Membership Report

The following members have joined since the last issue:

Joe S. Adams	**R1336**	**Alaska**
Sam Gonzales	**R1337**	**Wisconsin**
Al Jernakoff	**R1338**	**California**
Alan Longman	**R1339**	**U.K.**
Albert DeShazo	**R1340**	**Alabama**
Cass Seymore	**R1341**	**Colorado**
Daniel Gojsovich	**R1342**	**Pennsylvania**
David F. Mulberry	**R1343**	**Florida**

Welcome and enjoy.

c c c c c

Long Beach Convention Dates for 2002

SLCC meets on Saturday at each Long Beach Coin Show at 11am in Room 102A. The public is welcome. The dates this year are: Feb. 21-24, June 6-9, and Sep. 26-29. See you there Feb, 23, 2002. Great show to fill your needs or sell your coins.

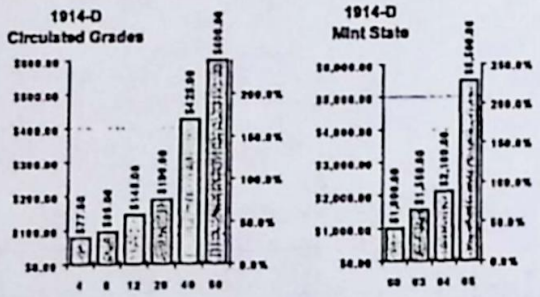
c c c c c

1914 D — KEY DATE

Availability

- This coin is scarce in all grades, especially in the VF to AU range. Quality mint state coins are often difficult to locate. Just try to find one in the MS-63 / 64 range with really good eye appeal.
- This "key" date is considered by many to be the #2 coin in the series.
  - This is a "key" date and even though many refer to it as rare, it is not.
- A hoard of at least 700 uncirculated examples was dispersed in the early 1950s.

1914-D — Circulated Grades								
Grade	4	8	12	20	40-45	50-58		
Qty	20	36	416	126	90	19		
Average	4.8%	8.8%	0.8%	29.8%	23.4%	23.8%		



1914-D — Uncirculated Red						
Grade	60-62	63	64	65	66-68	
Qty	2	11	72	41	4	130
Average	0.5%	2.8%	15.3%	9.0%	1.0%	

1914-D — Uncirculated Red/Brown						
Grade	60-62	63	64	65	66-68	
Qty	8	45	113	27	0	209
Average	1.9%	14.7%	27.2%	6.6%	(0.0%)	

1914-D — Uncirculated Brown						
Grade	60-62	63	64	65	66-68	
Qty	20	28	20	3	0	77
Average	4.8%	6.3%	6.7%	0.7%	0.0%	

45	MS-65 RED and above
416	Sum all mint state coins graded
31%	Percentage of RED verses sum of all MS certified

Die Attributes

- Most examples (approx 70%) are minted from high quality, well prepared dies that show strong detail in the hair, beard, coat and wheat stalks.
- One variety exhibits a prominent die crack that runs from the rim northwest into Lincoln's vest. This crack is visible even on coins that grade as low as good.

Striking Characteristics

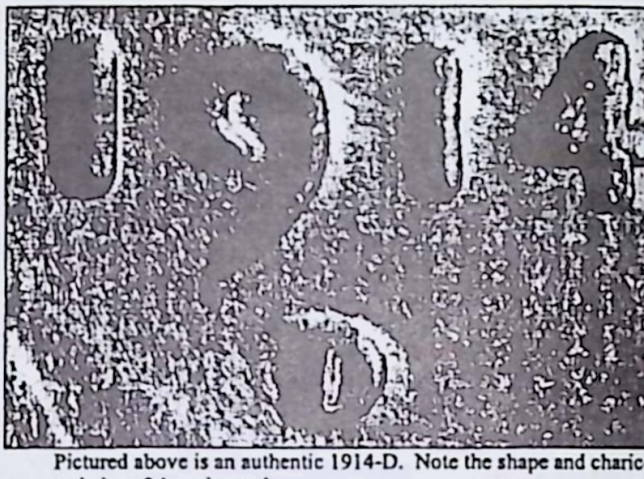
- Most examples are well struck with full metal flow into all areas of the die.
- Luster is average.

Color

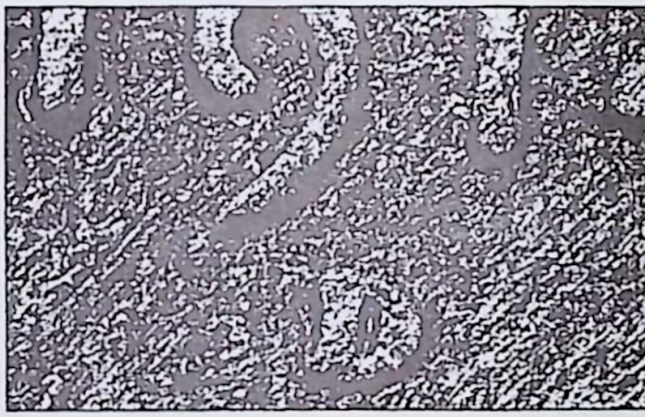
- Colors of uncirculated examples are typically of red and golden hue

Cautions

- Watch for cleaned and retoned pieces. Many pieces were cleaned in an attempt to either improve there appearance, or to pass them off a higher grade specimen. Cleaned specimens sell for greatly reduced prices.
- Beware of forgeries, many abound.
  - Struck counterfeits
  - Cast counterfeits
  - Mint marks added to genuine 1914 Philadelphia cents
  - Altered 1944 D cents



Pictured above is an authentic 1914-D. Note the shape and charic toristics of the mintmark.



Pictured above is a counerfiet 1914-D (a fake mintmark was adde a 1914 Philadelphia issue). Note that the shape of the mintmark d not match that of the authentic piece shown in the previous plate.

References

- (See *Counterfeit detection*, Published in *The Numismatist*, 12/82, p 2959, also available in reprinted form from ANACS, 1983, pages 3 61)
- Breen 2073

From The Centinel No. 11
September, 1997

CENTS IN THE NEWS

A California grade school teacher started an ambitious program to collect one million pennies. This story appeared in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES January 1, 1996. SLCC responded by sending the school copies of THE STANDARD GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT, samples of LINCOLN SENSE, and a letter explaing that in such a large number of cents, there surely can be wheat cents, RPMs, better dates, and many different coins to fill albums dated 1959-date.

A Lesson That Makes Good Cents

■ **Schools:** At Leona Cox Elementary, students are collecting 1 million pennies, learning math, responsibility.

By DANICA KIRKA
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CANYON COUNTRY—Kay Rich has found a million reasons to collect pennies, a project that amounts to far more than small change.

The math teacher and the students of Leona Cox Elementary School have set out to collect 1 million pennies, a hands-on math lesson that is teaching students as much about numbers as it does about responsibility.

"I'm trying to create for my students . . . a vivid memory of just what a million would look like," she said.

In their zeal to collect $10,000 worth of pennies, the students have garnered community-wide support for the assignment that eventually will help buy school computers.

The Glendale Galleria is donating all the pennies tossed into its fountains during the holiday season. Coast Federal Bank is lending an old vault for penny storage. Local businesses have put collection cans on their counters.

"A million is a long way to go," said Dave Callister, the owner of Hogi Yogi, a sandwich and frozen yogurt shop in Canyon Country, which has already collected two coffee-can-sized containers of pennies.

People have dropped by the school with cans and cigar boxes filled with pennies. Children have collected the coins from neighbors. Ashley Hudson, 9,

Please see PENNIES, B7

PHOTO BY RICARDO DeARATANHA / LOS ANGELES TIMES

Fourth-graders Brock Barbosa, left, and Nick Vance struggle with a bag of pennies.

1-1-96

NGC slabs off metal collection

The John Whitney collection of 43 and 44 Lincoln off-metal errors gets certified by NGC.

There are many directions that a collector of Lincoln cents an take. They can take the age old route of filling all the holes in the typical "Whitman" folder.

Some expand on this by adding many of the popular die varieties (RPMs, Doubled Dies, CUDs, Etc...).

Others branch off into errors. (off center, clips, multi-denomination strikes, Etc...)

While others were taking the above approaches, John Whitney branched off into one of the most fascinating areas for the Lincoln specialist, the area of "off-metal errors".

The most popular (and also most expensive) of these errors are the 1943 and 1944 off-metal cents.

The portion of his collection that he had certified consists of the following 8 coins:

1 AU-58 1943 bronze
2 AU-58 1943-S bronze
3 AU-58 1944 steel
4 MS-63 1944 steel
5 MS-62 1944-D steel
6 EF 40 1944-S steel
7 AU-55 1943-S struck on dime planchet
8 MS-63 1943-S struck on dime planchet

This story is from the September, 1997 issue of *The Centinel*. *Several other 43s and 44s have been sold since this set was slabbed.*

1942 "experimental cent" related pieces: In 1942 the United States Mint began searching for a suitable replacement for the copper cent. Being a strategic war material, copper was in high demand. Replacement material required various properties to simulate copper as closely as possible. Private companies were contacted to explore materials as diverse as plastic and glass. Special dies were prepared for use in the testing process. The firms involved provided sample planchets which were struck with these dies. We were fortunate to acquire a small quantity of plastic "Planchets" or disks which were left over from one of the private companies involved. We have two different types of material: general-purpose phenolic resin is very dark brown, weighs 10.30 grains and has six concentric circles raised on each side. (40 pieces) The Urea-formaldehyde plastic is olive and weighs 10.76 grains. These also have six raised circles on each side. (10 pieces) Order either type, each for 59

From The Coin Collector November, 2000. The Bowers &Merena catalogue of fixed price items. These rare 1942 pieces come in various non-metals and designs including the better-known "Justice" series.

SLCC, 13515 Magnolia Blvd.,
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

MAIL BID SALE #____ CLOSING DATE _____

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid

PLEASE EXECUTE THESE BIDS

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____

City State Zip

SLCC, 13515 Magnolia Blvd.,
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

MAIL BID SALE #____ CLOSING DATE _____

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid

PLEASE EXECUTE THESE BIDS

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____

City State Zip

SLCC, 13515 Magnolia Blvd.,
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

MAIL BID SALE #____ CLOSING DATE _____

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid

PLEASE EXECUTE THESE BIDS

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____

City State Zip

SLCC, 13515 Magnolia Blvd.,
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

MAIL BID SALE #____ CLOSING DATE _____

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid

PLEASE EXECUTE THESE BIDS

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____

City State Zip

Trust
Integrity
Financial Stability

E-mail: maron@deltanet.com

For trust, integrity, and financial stability, please call:
Michael Aron Rare Coin & Auction Company
to discuss the outright sale or consignment
of your numismatic collection

For a free catalog please call or write to:
Michael Aron Rare Coin and Auction Company
P O Box 4388
San Clemente CA 92674
(949) 489-8570
FAX (949) 489-8233

An Unsurpassed Record of Auction Success

We invite you to become a part of our spectacular upcoming auction season! When it comes time to sell, you deserve the best—Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc. Whether your collection is worth several thousand dollars or millions of dollars, we can realize for you the highest possible market price! What other auction houses claim to do, Auctions by Bowers and Merena has already done—and has the records to prove it.

We have handled more valuable collections and have set more auction price records than has any other firm. Our fabulous sales have included:

- ✓ The $44.9 million Eliasberg Collection
- ✓ The $25 million Garrett Collection
- ✓ The $20 million Norweb Collection.

Of the top 10 world's record prices for U.S. coins at auction, those achieving the records have been:

- ✓ **7 records:** Bowers and Merena (including the only two coins every to cross the $1 million mark)
- ✓ **1 record:** Competitor A
- ✓ **1 record:** Competitor B
- ✓ **1 record:** Competitor C
- ✓ **O records:** Everyone else

When you consign to Bowers and Merena, you consign to the most successful rare coin auction firm in American numismatic history! Let our record of success be your record of success, too. Call John Pack (Auctions Manager) or Q. David Bowers (Chairman of the Board) today (1-800-458-4646) to include your coins, sets, or important individual pieces in our magnificent auction program. Just by picking up the phone, you will be on your way to receiving a generous check!

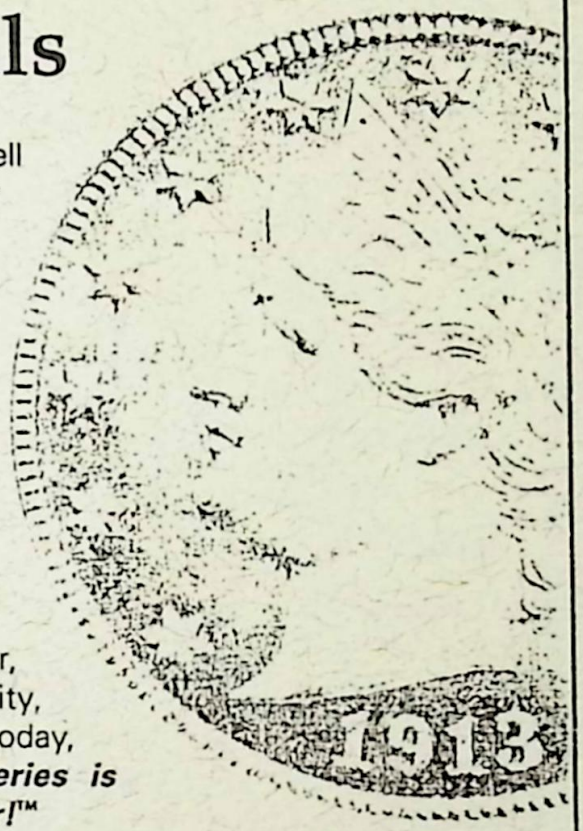
Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc.

Box 1224 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894 • 1-800-458-4646

Superior Galleries is Your *Local Source* for Rare Coin Auctions and Appraisals

Whether you are looking to sell your coins, or searching for that special coin to complete your collection, our friendly, experienced numismatists are ***right here in the heart of Southern California*** to help you with all your coin collecting needs. Insurance and estate appraisals are our specialty.

From professionally-prepared auction catalogs to convenient online lot viewing and bidding, we offer the best in service and results. At Superior, we treat every coin like a rarity, regardless of its value. Contact us today, and discover why ***Superior Galleries is America's Numismatic Auctioneer!***™



A
1913 Eliasberg Liberty Nickel
NGC graded Proof 66
Finest of Only 5 Struck

*Sold for a record price, **$1.84 million** (including 15% buyer's premium) in our March 2001 ANA auction*

Call 1-800-421-0754

Contact **STEVE DEEDS**, Director of Numismatics (**x204**, steve@superiorgalleries.com) or **WAYNE PRATALI**, Senior Numismatist (**x205**, wayne@superiorgalleries.com)

Check our website often for upcoming auctions!
WWW.SUPERIORGALLERIES.COM

SUPERIOR GALLERIES
BEVERLY HILLS
9478 W. Olympic Blvd. at Beverly Dr.

The Copper Experts™
SUPERIOR

© COPYRIGHT 2001 SUPERIOR GALLERIES, INC. AUCTIONEER • 1-800-421-0754 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Buying coins from Heritage takes a little effort, but it's worth it.

Here's why...

Heritage does not have:

- High-pressure sales representatives who repeatedly call you. In fact, we will seldom, if ever, call to sell you coins. Heritage has no commission-based or telemarketing sales staff, so you have to call us.
- And when you do call, sometimes we may be too busy to chat and hold your hand. So, if you're buying and know what you want, you can call, e-mail, send us a letter, or join My WantList online at www.HeritageCoin.com.

But Heritage does have:

- America's best selection of fresh, high-quality U.S. coins
- Very rapid inventory turnover
- Extremely competitive prices with low mark-ups. Most coins are priced at only 8 to 12% over wholesale, or less
- State-of-the-art Website and technology. Free membership. Superb online research resources including My Collection, independent pricing data, and much more
- Friendly (though occasionally rushed) service by real numismatists, many of whom have been with Heritage for decades
- Honest and competent descriptions and advice
- First opportunity to buy new inventory for My WantList customers. If you're not on My WantList, you're missing the best coins in the market.
- Bargain special offers from time-to-time (e-members only)
- America's #1 numismatic staff by any measure
- America's #1 auction company

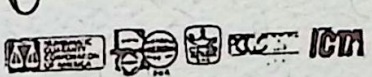
It's also worth it to call Heritage if you're selling.

- Whenever you decide to sell, whether via outright sale, private treaty consignment, or auction, we're the place to go. We work hard to reach every serious buyer, and we have many, many more clients for high-end coins than anyone else.

Heritage Rare Coin Galleries ▪ Heritage Numismatic Auctions

World's Largest Rare Coin Dealer and Auctioneer

HERITAGE



Heritage Plaza, 100 Highland Park Village, 2nd Floor • Dallas, Texas 75205-2788
1-800-US COINS (872-6467) • 214-528-3500 • FAX: 214-443-8425
web site: www.HeritageCoin.com • e-mail: bids@heritagecoin.com